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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

27 April 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

Subject: Estimate of Soviet Capabilities (U)

Reference: JCSM-324-63, dtd 22 April 1963*

It is apparent from your reply (JCSM-324-63) to my questions concerning the draft NATO Estimate SG 161/16 that we need to take a close look at our own estimates. I am particularly interested that we develop a common method for assessing capabilities which will permit ready comparisons between our own and Allied forces and the Soviet and Satellite forces. I wish this point kept in mind, as well as the questions I raised in my 12 April memorandum,* during the preparation of the studies now underway in the Joint Staff and DIA and in conjunction with CIA.

/s/ Robert S. McNamara

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